

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SPECIALIST DAVID S. ROBINSON

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I honor SPC David S. Robinson, 25, of Fort Smith, AR, who died November 20, 2010, in Zabul Province, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. According to initial reports, Specialist Robinson died of injuries sustained when his military vehicle overturned.

My heart goes out to the family of Specialist Robinson, who made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our Nation. Along with all Arkansans, I am grateful for his service and for the service and sacrifice of all of our military servicemembers and their families.

More than 11,000 Arkansans on Active Duty and more than 10,000 Arkansas reservists have served in Iraq or Afghanistan since September 11, 2001. These men and women have shown tremendous courage and perseverance through the most difficult of times. As neighbors, as Arkansans, and as Americans, it is incumbent upon us to do everything we can to honor their service and to provide for them and their families, not only when they are in harm's way but also when they return home. It is the least we can do for those whom we owe so much.

Specialist Robinson was assigned to A Troop, 2nd Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, V Corps, Vilseck, Germany. His mother resides in Fort Smith, AR, and his father in Canton, PA. His wife and children reside in Clarksville, TN.

STAFF SERGEANT KEVIN MATTHEW PAPE

Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of SSG Kevin Matthew Pape of the U.S. Army and Fort Wayne, IN.

Staff Sergeant Pape was assigned to C Company, 1st Battalion, in the 75th Ranger Regiment at Hunter Army Airfield in Georgia. He was 30 years old when he lost his life on November 16, 2010, while bravely serving in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Kunar Province, Afghanistan. He was on his third tour of duty in Afghanistan, after three tours in Iraq.

A native of Fort Wayne, Staff Sergeant Pape graduated from Concordia High School in 1998. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 2005 and graduated from the Ranger Assessment and Selection Program in 2006, where he served as a machine gunner, team leader and squad leader.

COL Michael Kurilla, Commander of the 75th Ranger Regiment, recalled that Staff Sergeant Pape, "had two priorities in his life—his family and the Rangers he led. By the manner in which he lived his life, Staff Sergeant Pape defined sacrifice, dedicated, and selfless service."

Staff Sergeant Pape's numerous awards and decorations include the Ranger Tab, the Expert Infantry Badge, the Combat Infantry Badge and the Parachutist Badge. He was post-

humously awarded the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart and the Meritorious Service Medal.

Today, I join Staff Sergeant Pape's family and friends in mourning his death. He is survived by his wife Amelia Rose Pape and his daughter Anneka Sue, both of Savannah, GA, and his father Marc Dennis Pape of Fort Wayne, IN.

We take pride in the example of this dedicated soldier and American hero, even as we struggle to express our grief over this loss. We cherish the legacy of his service and his life.

As I search for words to honor this fallen soldier, I recall President Lincoln's words to the families of the fallen at Gettysburg: "We cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here."

It is my sad duty to enter the name of SSG Kevin Matthew Pape in the RECORD of the U.S. Senate for his service to our country and for his profound commitment to freedom, democracy and peace.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, today, without congressional action, hundreds of thousands of Americans will lose their unemployment benefits. Earlier this week, along with 19 of my colleagues, I introduced the Unemployment Insurance Stabilization Act of 2010—the USA bill. Our bill would reauthorize the Federal unemployment benefits program.

Unemployment benefits are the only lifeline that many workers in Montana and across the nation have left in this tough economy. These benefits help millions of Americans to put food on the table and roofs over their heads. These benefits pump money into our economy and help to create jobs.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office says that unemployment benefits have one of the largest effects on economic output and employment per dollar spent of any policy.

This Congress has spent a lot of time reauthorizing unemployment benefits for a few months at a time. This bill would reauthorize the program for a full year.

A longer reauthorization of the unemployment benefits program would provide certainty. It would provide certainty for our economy. And it would provide the certainty that Americans looking for work need.

This bill would fund unemployment insurance for people who have lost their jobs in the latter portion of the recession.

This bill would not provide anyone with more than 99 weeks of benefits. This bill would ensure that out-of-work Americans who lost their jobs recently

would get benefits similar to those received by their neighbors who lost their jobs earlier in the recession.

The Department of Labor reports that for every dollar spent on unemployment insurance, two dollars are re-invested in the economy.

This bill is crucial to our economy. This bill is about jobs.

This bill is about jobs because unemployment insurance goes to people who will spend it immediately. That increases economic demand. And that helps to support our fragile economic recovery.

CBO says that aid to the unemployed is among the policies best suited to creating jobs per dollar of budgetary cost.

With unemployment at 9.6 percent, now is not the time to stop investing in economic recovery. This bill would keep in place a major source of our recovery. This bill would support Americans who have worked, are looking for work, and will work again.

For millions of people, unemployment insurance is the bridge to the next job. This bill would provide a bridge over troubled waters.

I think of a woman from Helena, MT, who called my office. She told us that unemployment benefits are keeping her family afloat. She was laid off when she was 8 months pregnant. And she wants the Senate to know that she has worked since she was a teenager. She wants to work. And she will work again.

And I think of a Montana father with three small children who was laid off after 18 years of service. The company could no longer pay his wages. He has no income. But he continues to look for work. His home is going into foreclosure. Unemployment insurance has been his only income. It is what puts food on the table for his family.

This is America. When there is an emergency, we don't leave people behind.

We cannot take Federal unemployment insurance benefits away before our economy and out-of-work Americans have found their footing.

Let's not leave the unemployed behind.

I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense legislation.

HEALTH CARE

Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts. Mr. President, I rise today to continue to urge my colleagues for quick passage of my legislation that would restore access to life-saving medicines for children's hospitals.

As my colleagues are aware, I introduced independent legislation in September that would protect the lives of the most vulnerable among us—our Nation's children—by immediately restoring access and ensuring children's hospitals across the country are able to purchase orphan drugs at a discount.

Children's hospitals lost access to these medicines when Congress passed